

**NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD, ST COLUMBA, TONGE MOOR
& ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS**

28TH SEPTEMBER 2014 – TWENTY SIXTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME



Once a sinner, always a sinner. That seems to be the attitude of the self-righteous in the first reading and the Gospel; they object that God is unjust, because he gives sinners another chance. But God tells them quite clearly that such attitudes are the real injustice - to allow prejudice and hardness of heart to come between repentance and forgiveness. The words of Christ in the Gospel must have struck a chill into the hard hearts of the so-called righteous chief priests - even today they can make us stop and think: Prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. All our outward show matters little, if it does not correspond with what is deep in our hearts; all our words are meaningless, if they do not correspond with the way we live our lives.

Liturgy & Activities This Week <i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 2</i> Sunday Missal: page 433 Preface: at priest's choice		Prayers Please
Sunday <i>Harvest Sunday</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) - with Children's Liturgy 10.15am Mass (SC)- with Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB)- with Children's Liturgy 2pm Baptism (SC) <i>Day of Prayer for Synod on Family Life</i>	<p>Sick: Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Tony Winstanley, Eunice Brierley, Cecilia Guest, Bernard Holder, Eileen Murphy, Kathleen Hopwood, Maureen Kennedy, Joan Pearce, Walter Norris, Peter Cranmer, Anthony Axford, Emma Turner, Pauline Bowling, Caroline Garside, Sarah Parkinson, Leila Parker, Mary Long, Oliver Smith, Dylan Crosby, Sharon Gordon and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Brian Hartigan, Rita Bramwell, Mary Grundy, Dr Bernard Higgins, Mary Marshall, Bill Gore</p> <p>Anniversaries: Barbara Grimes,</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Mary Grundy, In Thanksgiving for prayers answered, David Greenhalgh (Birthday Remembrance), Barbara Grimes, Caroline Garside (sick), Nicola Lamoury (Birthday Remembrance), Thanksgiving for 90 years of Graces and Blessings received, Joyce Knight,</p> <p>Cycle of Prayer Part 6 (of 6): We pray especially for: the spread of the Gospel; the harvest; the fruits of human work & the reverent use of creation; justice and peace in the world; all victims of war; young people; prisoners & their families</p>
Monday <i>St Michael, St Gabriel & St Raphael, Archangels</i>	9.15am Yr4 Class Mass in School (SC) 11am Requiem Mass for Mary Grundy (SJ) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday <i>St Jerome</i>	7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday <i>St Therese of the Child Jesus</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Thursday <i>The Holy Guardian Angels</i>	9.15am Mass (SB)	
Friday CAFOD Harvest Fast Day	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Saturday <i>St Francis of Assisi</i>	11am-12noon Adoration & Reconciliation (SJ) 5pm Mass (SC) 5.30pm-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) - with Children's Liturgy 10.15am Mass (SC) - with Children's Liturgy 10.30am Marian Procession, St Edwards, Rusholme 11.15am Mass (SB) - with Children's Liturgy 2pm Baptism (SJ)	
<p>Collections & Donations: All cheques (even for special collections) should be made payable to St Brendan's, St Columba's or St John's as appropriate.</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Cheques should be made payable to St John's</p> <p>Gift Aid: If you are a tax-payer, the parish can claim back the tax you have paid on any donations you make if you simply sign a Gift Aid form once. Please Ask. Thanks</p>		

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Congratulations: To Beatrice Lydia Gould who was baptised at St John's last Saturday and to Aoife Alice Waldron who was baptised at St John's last Sunday. We pray that they and their families may continue to grow in faith.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day, Friday 3 October 2014:

It is a stark fact that one in eight of us will go to bed hungry tonight. On Friday 3 October - Harvest Fast Day - CAFOD is asking you to make a place at your table to help our sisters and brothers in the world's poorest countries get enough nutritious food to eat. Your Fast Day envelopes are available in church this week. Please give as much as you can so that hunger isn't a fact of life for the world's poorest people.

Annual Marian Procession: The Marian Procession will be on Saturday 4 October starting at St Edwards Church, Thurloe Street, Rusholme, M14 5SG (10.30am). Bishop Brain will be joining the procession. For more information please contact 0161 817 2222 (Ext 245) or email marianprocession@gmail.com.

Bolton Prayer Breakfast: This will be held on Friday 10 October at Bolton Town Hall (7.30-9.15am). Dr Barbara Downes, Medical Director of Bolton Hospice will be the guest speaker and the cost is £10 per person. To request tickets or for more information, Telephone 0161 790 8289 or email: susan@edmonsons.org.uk.

Harbour Room Book Club: Thank you to all who attended our Book Club meeting and a special "thank you" to Tony Proctor who gave us all a very helpful talk on safety procedures and useful tips when using the Harbour Room for meetings. Also, thanks to Dorothy Hambelton who cheerfully chaired the meeting. Our next book for discussion is *The Last Runaway* by Tracy Chevalier on Wednesday 29 October. Same time and place. All welcome. *Madeleine*

40 Days for Life: Abortion is the leading cause of death in the world, ending more lives than heart disease, cancer, AIDS, war, hunger or any other cause. Every year over 13,000 unborn children are killed in Manchester alone. From 24 September to 2 November 40 Days for Life will be seeking to end the injustice of abortion through prayer, fasting, community outreach and peaceful vigil. Please sign up at www.40daysforlife.com/manchester-uk or contact Michael 07810 791032.

Think Vocation

St Paul speaks today of the need to have a common purpose and a common mind. Our Christian vocation should lead us to discover and carry out God's purpose for us. Our minds should focus on Christ which will lead us to put other people first and purify ourselves of conceit.

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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SVP

**Annual Report for St Brendan's and St John's SVP
2013/14**

St Brendan's: We currently have eleven members, having recruited three new members during the year. In the year we met forty seven times and made a total of 395 visits. Our main activities, apart from visits, are: the annual party for parishioners (40-50 guests), lifts to church, the sponsored walk (St Brendan's raised £515 this year), delivering Christmas gifts to the housebound, sick and people with disabilities, supporting two young children in India and paying twinnage to India to aid SVP work.

St John's: The SVP at St John's would like to thank Fr Michael, friends and parishioners for their continued support, encouragement and generosity during the past year. Without this our work would not have been so effective in offering friendship and support to the sick, needy, housebound and the lonely of our parish and those on the margins of society who need help. Our SVP has a thriving & active membership of fourteen who are supported by a number of parishioners who help with transportation and other SVP activities. During the past twelve months we have undertaken the following:

Visits - We have made 805 visits to thirty parishioners during the past year. We have also provided transport on 290 occasions to enable people to attend Mass and various medical appointments.

Outings - The people we visit look forward to, and enjoy, these twice yearly events when we visit parishes of interest, usually within the Salford Diocese. There is an opportunity to learn a little bit of history about the parish, Benediction and afternoon tea. We had a lovely visit in spring to St James the Less in Rawtenstall.

The Sponsored Walk - This year St John's raised £703.10. In total £1,328.10 was raised across the Bolton District to help families in need.

Christmas Food Parcels - Each year we deliver food parcels to parishioners in need and from time to time offer financial support. This year financial support has been provided on twelve occasions.

Jointly, across our three parishes we hold Masses for the sick, housebound and disabled and a Mass for those who have died during the year. Our parishes have also shown great support to Sr Barbara and BRASS with contributions of food and clothing items. We would like to thank everyone for all their support. Finally if anyone would like a visit or knows of someone in need of a friendly chat, please let us know.

Mass for the Housebound, Sick and Disabled: This year will be celebrated at St Brendan's on Saturday 11 October (11am). Everybody is welcome and refreshments will be available after Mass. If you require transport, please contact any member of the SVP.

BRASS: The collection for September comes to an end this weekend. Instead of our normal collection at St Columba's during October, the next collection will be a joint effort across all our three churches in November. Any donated items will then be sent to Sr Barbara in December. Thank you for all your support.